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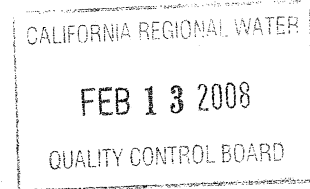
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*Senate*  
**California Legislature**  
**ELLEN M. CORBETT**  
**SENATOR**  
TENTH SENATE DISTRICT

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February 12, 2008

John Muller, Chair  
San Francisco Bay Regional  
Water Quality Control Board  
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Muller and Members of the Board:

I am writing to enter my views into the formal comment record for the proposed renewal of the storm water runoff Municipal Regional Permit (MRP). I believe it is essential for there to be measurable reductions in trash in our creeks and the San Francisco Bay (Bay) as a requirement in the Water Board's pending MRP.

Trash in the Bay is a serious problem that needs to be addressed. In the Pacific Ocean there is a garbage patch that weighs 3 million tons and covers an area the size of Texas. The Bay contributes to this garbage patch and has its own significant trash build up. Cities and counties must do their part to protect the Bay and the ocean from trash and marine debris. It should be the policy of California to eliminate trash in our creeks, rivers, bays, as well as prevent the addition of any more trash to the Pacific Ocean.

In order to ensure the effectiveness of this historic step to revise the MRP, the Water Board must do the following: prevent any delays in the current timeline for measurable progress over the permit term; build enforceability into the requirements and milestones; require accountability in the fundamental step of selecting trash management sites and ensuring that trash control measures are working.

In addition, I encourage the Water Board not to yield under pressure to weaken key specifics and enforceable measures in this permit, such as the long-term plan and the 50% capture devices requirement. Preventing trash pollution is an important priority for me and I am pleased to see the permit process move forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ellen M. Corbett".  
Ellen M. Corbett  
Senator, District 10

EMC/mwj/pc

Cc: David Lewis Executive Director, Save The Bay, 350 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 900  
Oakland, CA 94612

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